

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 8, and 10-16 are pending. Claims 8 and 10 are amended to address informalities as requested in the Restriction Requirement mailed on March 21, 2007. These amendments are supplied as a courtesy and find support in the Article 19 Amendment properly filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3) on October 15, 2004.

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 21, 2007, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse Group 1, Claims 1 and 2, drawn to a backlight being formed by a plurality of units.

Applicant reserves the right to present claims directed to the non-elected invention in a divisional application, which shall be subject to the third sentence of 35 U.S.C. § 121.¹

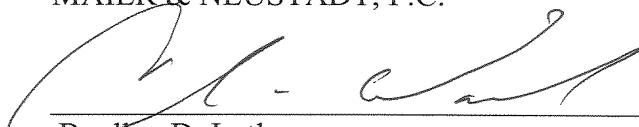
Applicant traverses the outstanding requirement as the requirement has not established that a serious burden would be required if the requirement was not issued and if all the claims in the application were examined together. The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

¹ "A patent issuing on an application with respect to which a requirement for restriction under this section has been made ... shall not be used as a reference ... against a divisional application." See also MPEP 804.01.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single species be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1, 2, 8, and 10-16 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Christopher D. Ward
Registration No. 41,367

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)